

Alternate Giving Ideas

The Wildwood Historical Society, Inc. and the Boyer Museum were made possible through the contributions of many individuals in our community.

The gifts you make today help preserve the memories of the past. Please consider the Historical Society in your will.

Friends of the Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.

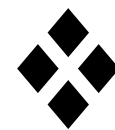
Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____

Membership Class	
<input type="checkbox"/> Life	\$200.
<input type="checkbox"/> Business	\$50.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$50.
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing	\$25.
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$15.
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$10.
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$5.

Renewal **New**
 Please check membership class and
 Enclose fee with application.

The Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.
 The Boyer Museum
 3907 Pacific Avenue
 Wildwood, NJ 08260

AV-05-2



Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.



The Boyer Museum

Issue #16

The Wildwoods By-The-Sea, New Jersey

Fall 2005

..... a message from the President

Hello, again! I didn't expect to be sending another message so soon, but we are changing our Newsletter mailings. We plan on two a year; one in Spring and the second in the Fall.



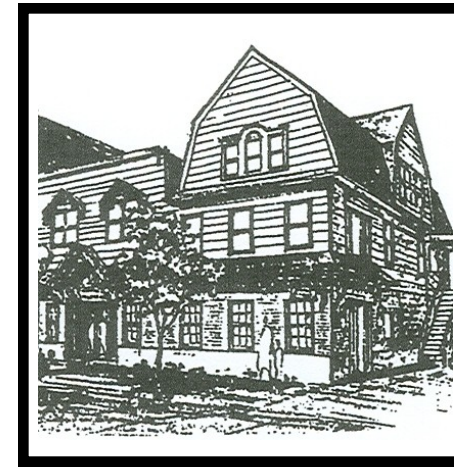
The summer of 2005 has come to a close and our island is beginning to quiet down. As many businesses and shops close for the winter months ahead, the Museum will still be open Thursday, Friday and Saturday all winter long starting October 1st. If you have not visited during the winter months, I'm inviting you to do so. As always give yourself a lot of time to browse our amazing collection of photos and documents. Also, don't forget about the museum gift shop when you're looking for that special one-of-a-kind gift to give to someone for the holidays. We still have "Wildwood by the Sea" books. This is the final printing. So why not take the trip down to the Museum this winter.

One of the things I'm working on as president is bringing the museum more up to date with technology. Currently I'm creating a web site for the Wildwood Historical Society that will host photos and information about us. We currently have a temporary e-mail address set up. Presently, we can be reached at: wildwoodhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com. In addition we are in the process of recataloging the museum collections into our new computer.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our members and friends who responded to our last mailing with donations and dues. We are very grateful for your support.

Anthony Canzano
Board President

We are looking for short stories from our readers. See "What's Happening at the Museum" for more info.



Preserving the history and memories of the Wildwoods . . .

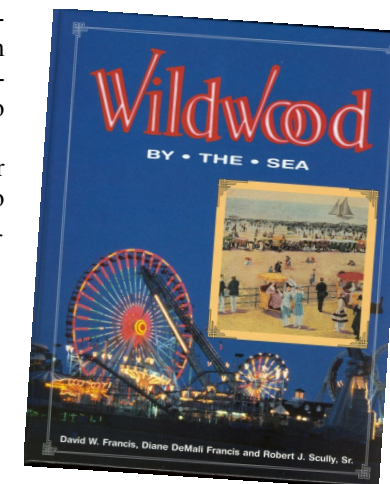
The Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.



Holiday Shopping List!

The Video - "Wildwood, The History of An American Seashore Resort" is available for sale in both VHS and DVD. The film is a 60 minute visual voyage through the history of our island from the settlement in the late 1800's through the present. The film also includes rare video footage and photos of the island. Cost: VHS, \$27 - DVD, \$29.
The Other Video - "Boardwalk" as seen on Comcast, PBS and the 2003 Cape May Film Festival. Produced by Longshore Films in 2003. Cost: VHS, \$25 - DVD, \$30.
Tram Car - Wind-up toy that talks, for ages 8 to 80. Batteries included. Cost: \$12.50
Water Globes - Features tram car with roller coaster, Ferris wheel and Boardwalk background. Cost: \$6.00.
The Book - "Wildwood By-The-Sea" Get this historical pictorial of the boardwalk now because it will not be reprinted. Cost: \$35.

Available at the
 Wildwood Historical Society
 3907 Pacific Avenue.
 Proceeds benefit the Museum
 - Also available by mail -
 Call for shipping and handling charges
 Call (609) 523-0277



MEMBERSHIP

We are always looking for new members to help preserve Wildwood's history. Now is the time to renew your membership. If you have done so already, we thank you. Because of rising costs of maintenance and utilities, donations are welcome, too! Membership dues help to cover the cost of mailing, notices, newsletters and notification of special events.

Ingersoll Funeral Home - 1927



Then!

3907 Pacific Avenue, Wildwood, NJ

Wildwood Historical Society - 2005



Now!

*Holiday Open House!
 December 4
 1 to 4 PM*

The Wildwood Historical Society, Inc.
 The Boyer Museum
 3907 Pacific Avenue
 Wildwood, New Jersey 08260



A THUMBNAIL HISTORY OF THE WILDWOODS

Years ago, when the Ice Age was receding, the ocean was 200 miles off shore. Then the ice melted and the ocean came to the present level, which we now know, leaving us the world's finest and safest white sandy beach.

Long before we came to this island, a branch of the Algonquin Indians (the Lenni-Lenapes) visited and summered here on the beach, dunes and wooded areas. The island later was a wooded grazing location for mainland farmers for their cattle and horses during the seasons. About 1870, a few fisherman of Nordic, Danish and Swedish decent became the first settlers, erecting sacks at the north end of the island, naming this settlement Anglesea; later North Wildwood. In 1874 the U. S. Government, for the Lifesaving Service, erected a lighthouse at Hereford Inlet (Anglesea).

The story of modern Wildwood began in 1880, as the first settlers followed Indian trails across the meadows and used barges or boats to reach the island. Then, in 1884, the West Jersey Railroad ran a line from near Court House to Anglesea. About the same time, a crude log bridge was built at what is now Rio Grande Avenue. It was destroyed by fire and replaced in 1903 by a bridge to carry autos. The Borough of Wildwood was incorporated in 1895, and continues to grow and was consolidated with the other island community, "Holly Beach" (1885), in 1912 to form the City of Wildwood.

This city has been host from Tommy Dorsey to Chubby Checker, and has had enough motels built to handle the small and large conventions like the State Firemen's conclave starting in 1975.

The town remembers—the many coastal storms, especially 1944 and 1962—the snow of 1974—expansion of the public schools and the construction of the Catholic High School in 1948—the removal of the railroad tracks on New Jersey Avenue—construction of Convention Hall and City Hall—the Garden State Parkway completion—the Rio Grande Road and Bridge—center city remodeling (Urban Renewal)—the southern expansion of Wildwood Crest—the Pacific Avenue Mall—the peaks and valleys of business and the many, many families who still come to enjoy our amusement facilities, boardwalk and beautiful beaches. All are designing forces which sculpted and molded the community. From the railroad with their \$1.00 excursions to the modern transportation, the resort prospered and became the family-oriented community you and I now know.

Robert J. Scully
Curator

*"Anyone who forgets the past,
Is doomed to repeat it."*

Percy H. Jackson, apparently very frustrated at a public meeting, insisted the following be written into the meeting minutes for the Borough of Wildwood: "I'm tired of women - I'm tired of sin -

I'm tired of whiskey - I'm tired of gin - I'm tired of the days - I'm tired of the nights - But, mostly I'm tired of those G__ D__ Brights!" (expletive deleted).



Can you name some of our "unknown" police grads? We believe the photo to be taken sometime in the 1950's. Back Row: Unknown, Frank Majuski, Bill Brady, Harry Breslin, Bill Breakell, Unknown, Frank Franco, North Wildwood Mayor George Busfield, Parker Johnson, Bob Rague, Wolf Johnson, Unknown, Leroy Baker, John Donnelly, Merril Meese, Cliff Olson, Unknown, Roland Bebler, Unknown, Charles Hubbard Front Row: Leo McGraw, Ray Gibbs, Sr., Ray Dhue, Unknown, Lou Gerner, Ambrose McGough, Charles Quinn, North Wildwood Chief of Police, Carl Hoffman, Lou Fiocca, Nick Crivelli, Wildwood Chief of Police, Lynn Forcum (Photograph courtesy Jeri Hoffman McDaniel)

Access us on the
WORLD WIDE WEB at
Http://www.the-wildwoods.com
Click on "Things To Do"
Then click on "Museum" to find the
Wildwood Historical Society
Boyer Museum
To see "A Brief History of the
Wildwoods," click "History"

HOURS

Closed all National Holidays
SUMMER HOURS
Monday thru Saturday, 9:30 - 2:30
WINTER HOURS
Thursday thru Saturday, 9:30 - 2:30
Closed Sundays

2005 OFFICERS

President Anthony Canzano
Vice President Phyllis Bethel
Vice President Doug Ford
Treasurer Pat Nagel
Secretary Larry Lillo

Board of Trustees

Evelyn Bailie Chris Mento
Alexander Brannen Harold Sherwood
James Farry Anna M. Vinci

Curator - Robert J. Scully
Robert Bright, Sr., Emeritus



We can place the time prior to 1912 since the "Borough of Wildwood" became the "City of Wildwood" in that year.

This information was furnished by our Office Manager, Robert Bright, Jr.

Taken from an advertisement in
Bussey's 1913 Cape May County Directory
(The Marine Bank Building is now home to Crest Savings)



The Marine National Bank
of Wildwood, New Jersey
Capital Stock \$30,000.00
Surplus \$40,000.00
Undivided Profits \$11,804.48

R. W. RYAN, President
GEO. N. SMITH, Vice President
C. G. ELDREDGE, Cashier

We get thank you notes . . . "We thoroughly enjoyed the books you have at the museum. They were a nice compilation all in one spot; easy to view." Sacchi Family



*What's happening
at the Museum!*
by Anne Vinci

Well, it's done! All of the National Marbles Hall of Fame memorabilia has been moved to a new location in the Wildwood Chamber of Commerce located at 3306 Pacific Avenue.

Bob Scully was busy for weeks with inventory of the articles and kept Lucy Roberts, of our summer office staff, busy entering the information into a data base. Al Brannen got busy freshening up the paint in the former "marbles" room, and we are now in the process of deciding how to use the new found space. All this was done while trying not to upset "Buddy" our resident

information and stories that enrich and provide the spirit that's so important to this museum. What we are asking of our readers is to share their memories. Stories can be funny, touching, sad, personal, or informative about our island. It can be a story passed down to you from a friend or loved one. We plan to gather these stories and put them into a "Memories" Book to share with interested visitors who come to our museum. As space permits, we hope to publish some of them.

We only ask that you keep your tale to 300 words; preferably typed or at

Taken from an advertisement in
Bussey's 1913 Cape May County Directory
(The Union Bank merged with PNC Bank)



The Union Bank of Holly Beach
Wildwood, New Jersey

Capital Stock \$50,000.00
Undivided Profits \$13,713.05

FRANK P. DOWNS, President
D. MILES RIGOR, Vice President
ELWOOD THOMPSON, Cashier
HON. CURTIS T. BAKER, Solicitor

If you haven't already made your donation, remember the Wildwood Historical Society with a Christmas Contribution

least legibly hand written. You can e-mail them to:

wildwoodhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com

or mail them to The Wildwood Historical Society, Inc. at 3907 Pacific Avenue, Wildwood, NJ 08260. Remember to include your name, address and phone number, so that we can contact you if we have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Incidentally, Bob Bright, Jr. our manager was host to celebrity singer, Charlie Gracie this summer. Charlie was very gracious and posed for pictures and gave us some artifacts for our "Entertainment Books."

In closing, I would like to say thank you for all your support, and on behalf of all of the Museum officers and Board Members, Office Staff and "Buddy" - We wish you a **Happy Holiday Season**, and a **Happy and Healthy New Year!**